

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Thank you, Senator Lynch. I did want to say, you must have realized I had one other thought out there and I couldn't quite get it when I was talking before. One of the things that we were told in the public hearing was that there are other resources out there for these families. They won't be cut off cold. And I would say back, if there are other resources, why then are these being used in the first place? It seems to me the policy change is, not eliminating these programs for everybody, because some people are using it when they ought to be using other resources, but rather to tighten up the administration in a way that says, we will look for all other resources before we get into this program. That's the kind of policy change that we need to have and perhaps that would save us dollars. That leads me to my other thought and that is there is sort of this attitude that the reason this is a problem program is because abuse is rampant, that the vast majority of people who are benefitting from this program really don't need it, that it's a giveaway and I just have yet to see anybody present cold, hard facts to support that assertion. I have not seen anything, and if it's out there, I wish people would present it to us and I might shift my position on this. Are there some who take advantage of this system? Could well be, but again, I would say that to categorically eliminate this program rather than to clean up our own administration of it would be the wrong direction to go. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Anyone else wish to address this amendment? Seeing no one, Senator Wesely, do you wish to close?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, I'd like to ask for a call of the house, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: A call of the house has been requested. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 9 ayes, 0 nays to go under call.

SPEAKER BAACK: The house is under call. All members please report to the Chamber and record your presence. The house is under call. The house is under call. All members please report to the Chamber and record your presence. The house is under call.